

JAMAICA

NEWS



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Emancipation— Challenges and Opportunities



Editorial

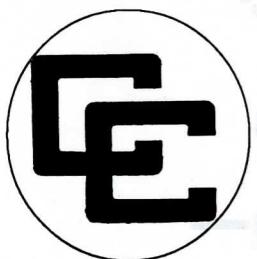
Dear Friends!

1998 marks the 160th year of the abolition of slavery in the British West Indies. Following recommendations by the Committee on National Symbols and National Observances, August 1, Emancipation day is now a Commemorative holiday. Under the theme "Emancipation: Challenges and Opportunities" the focus this year is on "Free Villages". These were found and established with the help of missionaries and philanthropists who assisted the freed slaves in acquiring land, building communities and creating the nucleus of the political independence and full nationhood we now enjoy. The challenges are many but so

are the opportunities. As a small nation, we continue to defy the conventional wisdom that seeks to stereotype us of minimal consequence in the world. Our successes and achievements belie our size and confound our detractors. Consider the performance of the Reggae Boyz — our National Football Squad — in the recently concluded World Cup.

As we face the challenges inherent in the millennium, we must never lose sight of the contributions of our forefathers to the freedoms we enjoy today, our rich cultural heritage and the tremendous potential of our people.

Till nex'time, walk good.



CARICOM LINKS

In pursuit of a CARICOM Single Market

The following is an excerpt from Prime Minister Patterson's Address at the closing ceremony of the 19th CARICOM Heads of Government Conference in St. Lucia held July 4, 1998, highlighting the urgency for the establishment of a single CARICOM Market by the turn of the century.

Twenty-five years of functioning have made CARICOM the oldest Integration Movement in the hemisphere.

"...The effective implementation of our agreements for the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), will not only

*A Proverb
for
the Day*

**"Cow read dem law
inna dem self"**

Meaning:

**Everyone acts
according to the dic-
tates of conscience.**

promote our development, but also enhance our international standing."

"While it is important that the CSME come on stream in accordance with our stated schedule, it is even more important that as Governments, we take the necessary action to implement the CSME and thus provide the legal and economic structure to encourage its effective functioning."

"To arm ourselves for the task, the region must accelerate the development of our human resources, including negotiating and representational skills; increase our technological skills; enhance our transport and communication capacities; improve our productive capacity and market access and deepen intra-CARICOM relations.

Reawakening our National Spirit

Excerpts from the 1998 Emancipation Day Message by Prime Minister of Jamaica, Rt. Hon. P.J. Patterson

the decade of the sixties which marked the milestone of our political independence.

We have a responsibility to educate our younger generation on the sacrifices made, and the struggles fought by our forefathers, in the process of nation building.

And it is this continuity, this creation and maintenance of a seamless thread of our history, our culture and all the forces, the challenges, the victories and the defeats, that have made us what we are today — a great little nation that confounds all the conventional wisdom and stereotypes that define small nations like Jamaica. This is what we must keep alive in the hearts and minds of those who will inherit this land, those who will be the leaders of the future.

For every Jamaican, then and now, August 1, 1838 marked a turning point in our destiny, in the course of our history, in the process of our growth as a country and as a people.

The Abolition Act, is of itself, a powerful historical document, not only for the former slaves and their descendants, but also an act of liberation for those who were the architects and co-conspirators in this the most shameful exploitation of fellow human beings.

The Act liberated both oppressed and oppressor from the common bondage of a dehumanising and pernicious system.

We have to ensure that its significance fully enters the consciousness of those born after

variety of activities planned to mark last year's celebration, is testimony that the renewal of this anniversary is of profound significance to our people.

For my part, I want to say how pleased I was how privileged I felt to have been a part of this great reawakening; to experience at first hand, the full expression of the creative spirit with which we are so generously endowed, especially in the performing arts.

Last year, Government took the decision to offer a number of academic scholarships and to launch a Land and Agrarian Reform Programme to commemorate the restoration of Emancipation Day celebrations and our 35th anniversary of political independence.

I urge our scholars and researchers, to record our history and our culture for posterity. We have a rich oral tradition.

Today, 160 years after the abolition of slavery in our land, Jamaica has proudly taken her place in the world community of nations. Our past experiences and the valuable lessons we have learnt, have contributed to make us what we are today, a proud and self-reliant people — fully free.

I wish for all Jamaicans at home and abroad — a memorable and enjoyable Emancipation Day celebration.



The abolition of slavery in Jamaica and our sister territories in the Caribbean was singularly one of the most important events in our collective history

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Free Villages in Jamaica — 1838 – 1842

Free Villages were townships established in Jamaica in the wake of full freedom from slavery and apprenticeship in 1838. Two main factors accounted for their emergence — the harsh treatment by the planters toward the ex-slaves; for example, low wages and high rental fees which sometimes led to eviction from plantation dwellings and the desire among some blacks for personal liberty and land of their own.

The development of free villages was both haphazard and planned. In the first case, individual freedmen either bought random sections of wasteland subdivided for the purpose by planters who needed quick capital; or they obtained lots from the owners of abandoned properties who were anxious to recover some of their losses. In the second case, planned villages were established under well-defined leadership, which came from the church. Below are accounts of how some of the villages came into being.

Sandy Bay

Sandy Bay was first owned by Reverend Thomas Burchell, who in 1838, purchased the parcel of land for the establishment of a free village for emancipated slaves. A plaque at the rear of

the Sandy Bay Baptist Church states that the place where the church is located is known as 'Burchell's Field'.

Maidstone (also called Nazareth)

Maidstone, under the direction of Moravian missionaries was founded in 1840 out of a coffee plantation of the same name, close to Nazareth in Manchester. The property comprised three hundred and forty-one acres and was divided into ninety-eight lots, ranging in size from one to fifteen acres. The deposit was small and some of the allottees approached the transaction in a most purposeful manner and by 1850 had completed their payments. The land was rocky and uneven, which did not allow for the formation of regular streets and squares. Nevertheless, the ex-slaves succeeded in building a large but irregular village.

Clarksonville

Clarksonville in St. Ann was so named by Rev. John Clark, a Baptist Minister stationed at Brown's Town in 1835. It was one of the first sets of free villages to be established shortly after Emancipation.

Rev. Clark purchased land for the settlement and Clarksonville was named for Thomas

Clarkson, an English advocate of the abolition of slavery.

Sturge Town

Sturge Town, also in St. Ann, was the second township formed by James Mursell Phillipo. It was named after the famous philanthropist Joseph Sturge. The land was purchased with money from England and formed part of a large estate of one thousand acres, which was purchased shortly after, in its entirety.

Kitson Town

Kitson Town, located eight miles from Spanish Town, was also founded by James Phillipo. It consisted of 195 acres and was bought with local assistance in August 1839. The land was sold mainly to labourers who had been turned off estates. The township, which was situated in the centre of a densely populated agricultural area, was opened with a ceremony in 1841, July 3.

Bethel Town

Bethel Town in St. James was established 1838, August 1, through the efforts of Rev. Thomas Burchell, then stationed in Montego Bay and who, along with other Baptist Ministers, established several free villages in Jamaica.

HELPLINE...

The Adoption of Children in Jamaica

The Adoption Board

The Adoption Board is a statutory body which falls under the Ministry of Health.

It is the only organisation in Jamaica that has responsibility for the adoption of children.

Legal adoption of children in Jamaica is carried out by the Adoption Board and Adoption Orders are made in the parishes where the applications are made. Children who are eligible for adoption must be between six weeks and 18 years old.

Who can adopt?

An application for adoption can either be made by a single person or by a married couple. Several requirements must be met, however, before an Adoption Order will be granted. A single applicant, or at least one party in a marriage, must be:

- born in Jamaica, or living in Jamaica permanently; or
- at least 25 years old.

If you are neither of the above, you must be the mother or father of the child.

If the applicant is a relative of the child to be adopted, he or she can be less than 25

years old, but must be more than 18 years old. There is no age limit for the applicant if he or she is married to the mother or father of the child. Applications are received on occasions from men, and there is an increasing number of single women who are applying to adopt children.

How to Adopt?

You must first make an application to the Adoption Board. You can go in person or write to the office at:

Ocean Building
2 King Street
Kingston
Tel: (876) 967-1100

You will be interviewed and given an application form to complete.

When this is returned, other interviews will be scheduled as necessary and home visits will be done. You will also be required to have a medical done.

You must be approved by the Adoption Board before a child will be placed with you. When an available child who is acceptable to you is identified, a pre-adoption placement will be done for a minimum of three months before an application for an Adoption Order can be made to the Courts.

The Board can also cancel a placement. The prospective adoptive parent(s) can also decide not to go through with the adoption, but must notify the Board of this.

Some persons adopt relatives or children who are known to them. These persons also have to work through the Adoption Board. If the Board is in favour of the adoption, you will be advised of the next step — an application to the Court for an Adoption Order. If the considered opinion of the Adoption Board is that the adoption should not take place, you will be informed of this.

Consent to Adoption

Before an Adoption Order can be made, the parent(s) or legal guardians(s) of the child to be adopted must consent or agree to the adoption. If one party to a marriage wishes to adopt a child, the other party must also consent to the adoption.

If, however, the parent or guardian whose consent is required has:

- neglected to, or continuously mistreated the child;
- failed to take care of the child, in keeping with his/her obligations.

To be continued

Here and There



USA



MAKING A POINT: Ambassador Marjorie Taylor, who has responsibility for Children's Affairs in Jamaica, making a point to the Mayor of New York City, Rudy Giuliani (right) when she paid a call on him at his office recently. Jamaica's Consul General to New York, Dr Basil K. Bryan (left) looks on while an aide to the Mayor (second right) sits in on the discussions.



TALKING SOCCER: Jamaica's Consul General to New York, Dr Basil K. Bryan, making a point to Minister of Sports, Horace Dally, when they attended the last friendly international soccer match played by the Reggae Boyz at Giants Stadium in the Meadowlands, New Jersey on Sunday, May 31 before the team journeyed to France.



SHARING A LIGHT MOMENT: Jamaica's Consul General to New York, Dr Basil Bryan (second right) shares a light moment with well-known actor, comic and entertainer, Dr. Bill Cosby, when they met during the Penn Relays held recently. Also sharing in the moment are Dr. Judith Rodin, President of the University of Pennsylvania (left) and Mrs. Jean Bryan (wife of Consul General Bryan).

Here and There



USA



MAKING A POINT: The Managing Director of "Busha Brownes" Winston Stona (center) makes a point to Jamaica's Consul General to New York, Dr. Basil K. Bryan. The occasion was a visit Dr. Bryan paid to the Busha Browne's booth at the recently held Fancy Food Fair at the Jacob Javits Center, New York. An employee is at right.



ADMIRING THE BAMMY: Jamaica's Consul General to New York, Dr. Basil K. Bryan admires a package of Anabella's Beenie Bammies when he visited the recently concluded Fancy Food Fair at the Jacob Javits Center. Looking on is Annabella Seaga, Head of the Annabella Beenie Bammies Company.

JAMAICA



A delighted Prime Minister, Hon P. J. Patterson, pats the Champion Bull at the 1998 Denbigh Agricultural Show. Hon. Roger Clarke, Minister of Agriculture(l) and others look on.



A peanut farmer has the attention of Prime Minister P.J. Patterson (r) and President of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, Bobby Pottinger (c), at the 1998 Denbigh Agricultural Show.

Here and There



LONDON



Oliver Clarke, Chairman, Gleaner Company (right), now well known in London for his sharp wit, seems to be at it again as he makes a point to (l-r) JAMPRO Chairman Joseph Matalon, High Commissioner Derick Heaven, Finance Minister Omar Davies and JAMPRO President Pat Francis.



Minister Davies examines a selection of the products being displayed by the Grace Kennedy Company Ltd. at Trade Expo '98 in London.



Little Shakirah Hunte (left) and Eziaku Nwosu proudly display their poems entitled 'Reggae Boyz' and 'Jamaica' respectively, which jointly won first prize in their school competition. Prizes were presented by High Commissioner Derick Heaven (centre) when he visited their North London School.



A section of the large crowd who visited Trade Expo '98 in London. Approximately 15,000 were in attendance this year.

TOURISM

Wyndham New Kingston Hotel renamed Hilton Hotel

Ocean Chimo Limited has purchased the 303-room Wyndham New Kingston Hotel, a seven-acre property in New Kingston, Jamaica and has renamed it the Hilton Hotel. This hotel will be managed by Hilton International on behalf of its owners, Chimo Limited, a division of RHK Capital INC. of Toronto, Canada.

TECHNOLOGY

Website for National Heroes

A website featuring the National Heroes of Jamaica has been opened by the Secondary Schools Project of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The website's address is www.kasnet.com/heroes_of_jamaica

Returning Residents Facilitation Unit launches Website

The Returning Residents Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade launched its Website recently.

The website's address is: <http://www.skillsreturn.gov.jm>

CULTURE

Miss Lou honoured by New York University

Jamaica's Ambassador of Culture, Hon. Louise Bennett-Coverley recently received the Doctors of Letter Degree from New York University in Toronto, at the University's Spring Convocation.

Miss Lou was recognised for her achievements as a poet, dramatist and storyteller and for reminding everyone of Jamaica's great contribution to the Canadian and world culture.



Rt. Hon. Louise Bennett-Coverley

SPORTS

CARICOM awards Nine Jamaican Sports Personalities

Nine Jamaicans, the most from any single country, were honoured by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). The nine were among the 25 most outstanding sports personalities CARICOM honoured for their contribution over the last 25 years.

The list included athletes, sports administrators and journalists honoured as part of CARICOM's celebration of its Silver Anniversary during its 19th Summit of Heads of Government recently held in Castries, the sea-side capital of St. Lucia.

The honorees from Jamaica were: Mike Fennel, Jamaica Olympic Association President; Steve Bucknor, International Cricket Umpire; Tony Becca, Sports Journalist; Deon Hemmings, Olympic Gold Medallist; Merlene Ottey, Sprint Queen; Donald Quarrie, Former Olympic Medalist; Mike McCallum, Boxing Champion; Courtney Walsh, Former West Indies Cricket Captain and Warren Barrett, Captain of the National Football Team.

Historical potpourri

See how much you know about Jamaica's history.

1. What day of the week was August 6, 1962?
2. Where did the official Independence celebrations take place?
3. Who represented the Queen and the United States at the ceremony?
4. Who was Jamaica's first Prime Minister after Independence?
5. Who was Jamaica's first Governor-General after Independence?
6. What was Jamaica's population at Independence?
7. What do the colours of the flag mean?
8. Who wrote the National Anthem?
9. Name the National Bird.
10. Name the National Flower.
11. Name the National Tree.
12. Name the National Fruit.
13. Who was the first President or Prime Minister to visit Independent Jamaica?
14. Who was the first Canadian Prime Minister to visit Jamaica?
15. Who was the first African Head of State to visit?
16. What famous American was presented with the Keys to the City of Kingston in 1965 and described Jamaica as the only place in the world where he felt like a human being?
17. When was Jamaica admitted to the United Nations?
18. What year did the Festival song competition start?
19. Name the first Festival song?
20. "Oh Cherry Oh Baby" was one of the most popular Festival songs. What year was it the winner and who sang the song?
21. When did Jamaica change to the decimal system of currency?
22. When did Nanny and Sam Sharpe become National Heroes?
23. How many times has a Jamaican won the Miss World title?
24. When was the first Air Jamaica flight and where was its destination?
25. In which year did Norman Washington Manley die?
26. In which year did Alexander Bustamante die?
27. Who was the first Prime Minister to get married while in office?
28. In what year was the celebration of the Queen's birthday discontinued?
29. What new holiday started the same year?
30. Who became the British Empire Lightweight Champion in 1962?
31. When did the National Arena open?
32. Who was the first native Governor-General of Jamaica?
33. At what hour was the British Flag (the Union Jack) lowered for the last time?
34. Which holiday was discontinued in 1962 and revived in 1997?
35. When did Jamaica start celebrating Independence Day on August 6 instead of the first Monday in August?
36. Name all the public holidays in Jamaica?
(Hint: there are 10).

Look out for answers in next issue



FEEDBACK

In response to newsletter dated March 1998

Audrey B. Clarke — New York

On page 8 under **Interesting Place Names**, one must agree that there are some ridiculous names in some of these districts. Names such as Wait-a-Bit, Red-Gal-Ring, Mocho, Gubea, Race Course, Exeter and so on. Now remember that we were under Colonial Rule and, only after travelling to Europe I learnt that most of these places were named after those so called "Busha" or "Headmen" who were sent from Europe to manage the properties. Now that we are independent let us move forward by renaming some of these towns, cities, districts etc. with names like Pineapple Rise, Ju-Plum Stroll, Sugar Cane Hill, Nutmeg Landing, Madam Audrey's Landing etc. Interesting isn't it!

Ivey Pusey — Brooklyn New York

This is just a short line to let you all know that the Jamaica Newsletter means a lot to me. Its wonderful to see that someone can send me something to read about my country. I love my Jamaica and may God bless you all. Keep up the good work.

Emancipation Word Search

The Emancipation words listed below are hidden in the puzzle. Find them and circle each word, which may appear horizontally, vertically or diagonally.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | P | E | S | T | A | T | E | R | U | I | N |
| U | O | N | M | L | S | T | L | N | E | S | T |
| N | E | G | R | O | A | R | J | P | P | N | O |
| F | R | E | E | D | E | V | R | R | E | Y | O |
| B | Z | R | A | T | K | A | E | D | S | D | L |
| A | T | D | N | F | H | L | N | S | D | A | E |
| C | N | A | E | S | A | E | I | K | O | L | B |
| O | L | I | M | Y | P | B | U | A | K | U | E |
| P | V | A | M | E | Q | N | Z | F | U | M | R |
| I | S | C | D | U | N | N | O | K | N | O | J |
| H | R | N | A | Y | K | C | A | T | U | N | T |
| S | I | E | M | A | N | C | I | P | A | T | E |

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| Bissy | Ruin |
| Emancipate | Slaves |
| Independent | Dokunu |
| Myal | Freed |
| Rebel | Kumina |
| Ship | Planter |
| Tool | Sam Sharpe |
| Estate | Tacky |
| Jonkonnu | |
| Negro | |

THINK ON THESE THINGS

There are two things over which you have complete dominion, authority and control — your mind and your mouth.

Moifi Asante



It takes a deep commitment to change and an even greater commitment to grow.

Ellison



In the solitude of your mind are the answers to all your questions about life. You must take time out to ask and to listen.

Bawa Mahaiyadden



INTERESTING PLACE NAMES

The Cage: Built in 1806, was a wooden jail for runaway slaves, unruly seamen and other vagrants. The "Cage" located in Montego Bay in the parish of St. James is now used as a Tourist Information Centre and as a small museum.

Madras, St. Ann was so named for a city in India. It is a reminder that the indentured East Indians were imported in 1845 to take the place of Africans on the sugar estates whose importation ceased in 1838.

Maldon, St. James, was originally known as a "free village" founded by the Rev. Walter Dendy, an English Baptist missionary, with financial assistance from the Baptists at Maldon, Essex, England.

Cave Valley, St. Ann, is so called because of the proximity of the great Cave River, on whose banks it is located.

From: Dictionary of Jamaica Place Names — Inez Knibb

We need to hear from you!

We are developing our mailing list for the Jamaica News Newsletter overseas.

If you have a friend or relative who might be interested in receiving copies, do ask them to write / telephone / fax us at:

- **Toronto**

Jamaican Consulate, 214 King Street West,
Suite #402, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 3S6
Tel: 416-598-3008, Fax: 416-971-6402

- **Washington**

Embassy of Jamaica
1520 New Hampshire Avenue N.W.
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Tel: 202-452-0660, Fax: 202-452-0081

- **London**

Jamaican High Commission
1-2 Prince Consort Road
London SW7 2BZ
Tel: 011-44-171-823-9911, 011-44-171-225-2791

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842 Ingraham Building
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Fax: 305-577-4970, 305-374-9674

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Jamaican Consulate
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Tel: 212-935-9000, Fax: 212-935-7508

- **E-mail**

JIS@jol.com.jm



Clip and keep

Special days to remember in September

- COASTAL CLEAN-UP DAY – SEPTEMBER 19
- WORLD MARITIME DAY – SEPTEMBER 23
- DENTAL HEALTH WEEK – SEPTEMBER 20 – 26
- WORLD TOURISM DAY – SEPTEMBER 27
- NATIONAL BREAST FEEDING WEEK – SEPTEMBER 20 – 25

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